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Chairman Iulius Genachowski Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker Commissioner Mignon Clyburn Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Robert McDowell **Federal Communications Commission** 445 12th Street SW Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations (WT Docket No. 11-65)

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

The undersigned are minority businesspersons and entrepreneurs who are concentrating our efforts in the digital space. We are writing to encourage you to approve the AT&T-T Mobile merger as quickly as possible.

We represent companies that produce applications, develop innovative devices, supply goods and services to network operators, and assist in network management. Whatever we do, however, we have one thing in common: our companies cannot grow and we cannot add jobs unless there is sufficient spectrum for wireless networks to be fast and robust. By using the currently available spectrum more efficiently, the merger will make the network work better for customers and businesses. That means our companies will have a better platform on which to work and from which to add new services and products. As our businesses grow, we will add jobs. This is a direct and predictable impact of the merger.

The merger will thus lead to greater economic opportunity for our businesses and a wide variety of minority-owned businesses that will take advantage of the network's expanded reach and power to

move many aspects of their businesses online and to mobile platforms. This will encourage further innovation throughout the economy and, we believe, further entrepreneurship.

By reaching so many Americans who are currently not reached by fast broadband connections, the merger will have a particularly beneficial impact in minority communities. Ubiquitous fast connections will help expand the market for our products and services. Wireless technologies have helped African Americans to close the digital divide by providing a cost-effective alternative to wired broadband offerings, facilitating the quick adoption of smartphones and mobile devices among our nation's African American population. We expect that this positive trend will only continue once the merger makes it possible to give more people the opportunity to benefit from the high-speed mobile Internet.

Finally, we note that AT&T's record on supplier diversity and procurement in every aspect of its operations is very strong. We are confident that the new, combined company will continue this commendable tradition.

In short, we urge you to approve this merger as quickly as possible, to help make the national wireless network more efficient and reliable and to help our businesses grow.

Sincerely,

David Grain, President & CEO Grain Communications Group

Darrell Mays, CEO

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Roscoe Young, President & CEO $\,$

Laurelwood Partners

Eury Rodries

Goscae C. Young

Evelyn Rodriguez, Managing Director

The Aquiline Group, Inc.

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